

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 13677 160718Z

17
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SAJ-01 SAM-01 CPR-01 /061 W

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O 160555Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8408

INFO AMCONGEN HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 13677

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR IN CH

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER SIGNS MAO CONDOLENCE BOOK; DEPUTY FORMIN
HOPES NORMALIZATION PROCESS WILL CONTINUE; SHOULD US FLAG BE
LOWERED?

1. PRIME MINISTER GANDHI SIGNED THE CONDOLENCE BOOK
MOURNING MAO'S DEATH AT THE CHINESE AMBASSY ON SEPTEMBER 11.
SHE WAS RECEIVED BY AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE CHEN CHAO YUAN
AND CHARGE LIN HSING-FU. UPON DEPARTING, MRS. GANDHI
IS QUOTED BY SAMACHAR AS TELLING THE NEW AMBASSADOR: "WE
ARE SORRY THAT YOUR FIRST TASK IS A SAD ONE". OTHER NOTABLES
WHO SIGNED INCLUDED EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER Y. B. CHAVAN,
FOREIGN SECRETARY JAGAT MEHTA, AND PROTOCOL CHIEF H. S.
WAHALI.

2. TWO DAYS LATER DEPUTY FORMIN BIPIN PAL DAS, TRAVELING IN
ASSAM, TOLD NEWSMEN THAT MAO WAS A COLORFUL PERSONALITY AND
WOULD BE REMEMBERED FOR DEDICATION TO WORK, STRENGTH OF WILL,
COURAGE AND CONVICTION. DAS ADDED THAT HE HOPED THE
PROCESS OF NORMALIZATION BETWEEN INDIA AND CHINA, BEGUN
WHEN MAO WAS ALIVE, WOULD CONTINUE.

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3. ADCM AND DATT SIGNED CONDOLENCE BOOK AT THE CHINESE

EMBASSY SEPTEMBER 16. INDIANS HAVE NOW PUBLICLY
CONFIRMED THEY WILL FLY GOVERNMENT FLAGS AT HALF-MAST
ON SEPTEMBER 18 IN MAO'S HONOR. DIPLOMATIC CORPS
APPEARS TO BE DIVIDED ON WHETHER TO FOLLOW INDIAN
EXAMPLE OR NOT IN VIEW OF MAO'S NOT HAVING BEEN CHIEF
OF STATE. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD
APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE ON WHETHER TO
OBSERVE FLAG PRACTICE OF GOI ON THIS OCCASION.
SAXBE

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 16 SEP 1976
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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TAGS: PFOR, IN, CH, (MAO TSE-TUNG)
To: STATE
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